

Project Factsheet for: Beaver Island Habitat Rehabilitation & Enhancement Project, Pool 14, UMRS-EMP

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Project Location Information

Location: Pool 14, Upper Mississippi River Miles 515.0-513.0, Clinton County, IA
State(s): IA
Congressional District(s): IA-1

Status

General design of the project has been initiated. A draft DPR is scheduled for completion in 2007.

Description

Resource Problem: The 270-acre Beaver Island Complex represents 16% of the Pool 14 backwater habitat. The complex of backwaters and sloughs has historically provided overwintering and spawning habitat for fish and feeding habitat for migratory water birds. The area has been degrading steadily due to sedimentation. Wetland functions have also been negatively affected.

Project Features:

- * Dredge backwaters and connection sloughs using a combination of hydraulic and/or mechanical dredging.
- * Dredged material would be used to construct small nesting islands and berms to deflect sediment. Bottomland hardwoods would be planted on embankments.
- * Explosives or mechanical dredging would be used to create isolated wetlands (potholes)
- * A manual control structure or low maintenance high water diversion gate would be placed on the upper end of the complex to reduce sediment loading while introducing oxygen rich water into the complex when needed.

Project Outputs: Dredging the backwater and connecting sloughs would provide critically important overwintering habitat for fish, such as bass, crappie, and bluegill. The isolated wetlands would restore feeding habitat for resident and migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, and wading birds. The mast tree plantings will increase species diversity and improve the existing timber stand. The project would maintain the quality and diversity of habitat in the largest backwater complex in Pool 14.

Summarized Financial Data

General design costs are estimated at \$600,000. Estimated construction costs will be included in the draft Definite Project Report (DPR), although an initial estimate was set at \$4,000,000. Annual costs for operation, maintenance, and repair will be the responsibility of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is the project proponent.

Authority

CG - Construction General --

Project Manager Information

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